

e-Bugle

Garrett Bugle Internet Edition

Volume 58

June 2011

No. 6



Calendar

Fri., May 20	Pick up your <i>Bugle</i> at PO lobby	Mon., June 13	Town Council Meeting, Town Hall, 7:30 pm
Sat., May 21	Progressive Dinner, 6 pm	Tues., June 14	Lunch Bunch, Town Hall, 12:30 pm; <i>Bugle</i> deadline, 4 pm
Wed., May 25	Citizens Association Meeting, Town Hall, 8 pm, Land Use Forum (pp 3, 4)	Thurs., June 16	GP Casual Music Jam, Town Hall, 8 pm; Last day of public schools
Thurs., May 26	Not for Seniors Only Games and Tea, Town Hall, 1:30–3:30 pm	Fri., June 17	Film Society, <i>The Princess Bride</i> , Town Hall; dinner, 7:15 pm; film, 8 pm (see p 3)
Sat., May 28	Pool opens, 10 am	Sat., June 18	1st Annual Garrett Park Youth Art Show, Town Hall, 12–2 pm (see p 4)
Mon., May 30	Memorial Day; Memorial Day picnic, Pool, 5 pm; <i>No trash collection</i>	Wed., June 22	Citizens Association Meeting, Town Hall, 8 pm, topic TBA
Wed., June 1	GPES spring chorus concert, 7:30 pm; submissions for Mrs. Stemble's retirement book due (p 5)	Thurs., June 23	Not for Seniors Only Games and Tea, Town Hall, 1:30–3:30 pm
Sat., June 4	GIVES collection, Penn Place, 9 am–1 pm; Deadline for summer calendar dates for the next <i>Bugle</i> to Mary Moyer	Fri., June 24	Pick up your <i>Bugle</i> at the PO lobby
Sun., June 5	Musicale for Gieser music scholarship, Town Hall, 4 pm; <i>Bugle</i> deadline for names of graduates (see p 5)	Sat., June 25	Large item pickup

One Hump or Two?

Kicking rabbits out of my way as I walked to this month's Town Council meeting, I marveled as always at the amazing animal life around here.

I arrived a little early for the meeting and sat in the Town Hall's back garden, by the Zen fountain. I tried to be mindful of my breathing, but the rabbits distracted me.

As the Council gathered around the table, one member had to endure some disapproval because he was wearing a suit.

The Mayor began by congratulating re-elected Councilmembers Chris Petito, Jack Mandel, and Phil Schulp. He thanked them for their willingness to serve. He then announced that Pepco has a new Maryland liaison, and we're working with that person to get a last damaged tree removed. Jack mentioned that we also need to talk to Pepco

about some bundled wires on Strathmore—we want to minimize any impact on trees.

Chris said that a restructuring of county revenue sharing has been proposed that would be, he suggested, "a more predictable way of proceeding."

The drilling of geothermal wells has meant that a diversion path to the Metro (the diversion is along the part of the path that's near Garrett Park Elementary) has been created. Apparently the path is rather slippery. One resident was injured on it. Be careful.

We've just gotten nine nice specimen oaks from a supplier in Georgia. "They're quite big." Because we got a bulk order, shared with Brookside, the town scored a substantial discount. Plus,

(continued next page)

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“you should go and see” the spectacular swamp oak we put in Waverly Park. We got it for free!

Even though a house exploded across the tracks, we are assured that the work going on around here involving realigning surface pipes from gas mains to homes that have natural gas will *not* produce the same result.

The Mayor will be out of town from June 3 to 11 and asked the Council for a volunteer to be acting mayor.

Beth Irons mentioned that on May 25 at 8 pm, the Citizens Association will sponsor a Land Use Forum in the Town Hall (see pp 3, 4). Recommendations from our own land use committee, as well as updates on Montgomery County zoning proposals, will be featured.

Hans Wegner has asked the SHA to take down some dead or dying oaks around Raleigh and Knowles. He’s waiting to hear back.

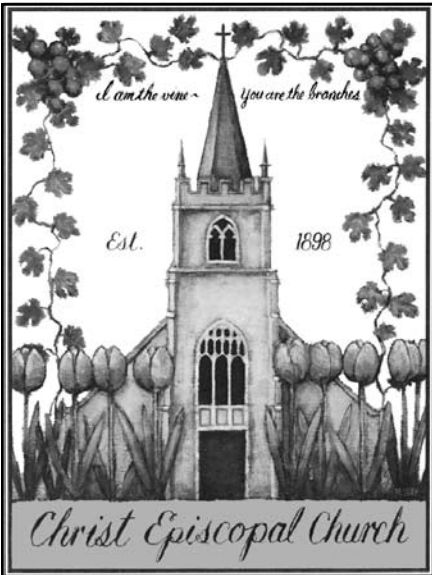
Lots of discussion now followed on the subject of the Rokeby Avenue speed hump. Should there be one or two? Where should it/they be located? Some people argue that the curve toward the bottom of Rokeby is a natural traffic calmer, and that it—plus parked cars—probably slows traffic as much as a hump would.

The Mayor wondered whether we might also need a more visible *No Outlet* sign along Rokeby, much of the problem with speeders down there apparently involving drivers not realizing it’s a dead end. They turn their cars around at the bottom of the hill and then, annoyed, go roaring off.

The sense of the Council was that one hump would be “a reasonable first step.”

The long-standing problem of drainage along parts of Kenilworth Avenue was now addressed. The town has arranged a meeting with Chester Engineering. They will come out and talk to the affected residents about possible solutions and costs. The town clearly has to expand the capacity of the drain, but we need more information before we can proceed.

Margaret Soltan



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Art at Penn Place

Beginning June 6, the work of Nancy Heindl will be exhibited at Penn Place. Nancy writes: “I love to paint outdoors on location, both in oils and pastels. Working ‘plein air’ seems to impart a freshness and life to a painting that to me doesn’t happen in a studio painting.

“This year I am excited by oil pastels. These are some of my teachers over the years: Miriam Roberts and Helen Wood, oils; Pattie Glennie, acrylic collage; Joanne Sullivan, abstract art; and Jackie Jouvenal and Evan Goldman, soft pastels.”

Nancy’s Web site is www.nancyheindl.com.

Berton Zbar

Green Again

Elaine Kennedy sent us a check in November 2010 to pay for this month’s banner. Thank you, Elaine. We have the money needed to cover the July banner. But the well is now dry! However, we can now offer you a new lower cost sponsorship. Since we are printing fewer *Bugles*, the cost of printing the banner pages (which we do all at once during the summer) has gone down. Accordingly, we can lower the cost of sponsoring the banner to \$45 an issue. (If we get no sponsors, we could go to black for the year, which would save more but be less attractive.) Would anyone like to donate for our next printing year? (It runs from September 2011 to July 2012.) Send a check for \$45 made out to the Citizens Association to me, Box 98, and we’ll put the money into our bucket. Thank you in advance.

Part of your Citizens Association dues funds this publication, as well as the 4th of July festivities. You have any ideas for a theme this year? It could have something to do with the drain problems the town is facing, the trees coming down (or going up), politics, or maybe even cats (we’ve done dogs). Send in your dues or suggestions to Box 456.

Mary Moyer

Visit Garrett Park’s Web site:

www.garrettpark-md.gov

The *Garrett Bugle* is a publication of the Citizens Association of Garrett Park, published 10 times a year. Publication of the *Bugle* is supported by member dues. All residents of Garrett Park are members of the Citizens Association. Yearly dues (\$20 per family or \$10 per individual per address) can be sent to Citizens Association, Box 456, Garrett Park, MD 20896.

Citizens Association Officers:

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Vice-President: Todd Harris
Treasurer: Lara Hines
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First-class subscriptions cost \$15 (bulk mail subscriptions are no longer available). Letters to the editor can be submitted by mail or hand to *Bugle* staff or by e-mail through the town Web site: www.garrettpark-md.gov/submit-BugleArticle.php. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions for length and clarity. Unsigned letters will not be printed.

Town Administrator Notes

Town Elections. Many thanks for the fine work of Judges of Election: Brenda Artim, Chief Judge, and Judges Margaret Goldsborough and Cliff Tarpy. Thanks also to poll workers Barbara Shidler, Judy Heyman, Les Henig, and Natalie Grande. Congratulations also to Jack Mandel, Chris Petito, and Phil Schulp for undertaking another term as Councilmember.

Large Item Collection. There will be a large item collection Saturday, June 25.

Garrett Park Building Permits. We are well into the building season, and I would like to remind everyone to please check with the Town Office to find out if your project needs a Garrett Park permit. A town permit is required to demolish any building larger than 400 square feet. Also, a Garrett Park building permit is required whenever a new structure is to be built, including a new house, shed, garage, or similar structure, or when the size of a house is proposed to be increased with an addition, a deck, a porch, or the like. The town is concerned only with the relationship of the proposed construction to the size of the lot and its setback from the lot’s boundary. The town also requires a permit for driveway or parking pad construction or repair. A town building permit should be applied for before you apply for a Montgomery County building permit.

Montgomery County Building Permits. Montgomery County requires building permits for any structure above ground level (not patios or driveways) including sheds, garages, decks, fences, etc. A county permit is also required for any alteration to a structure (other than ordinary repair or maintenance) and for demolition. The county is concerned with zoning, health and safety, plumbing, structural and electrical work, and the like. For more information, contact the Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services at 240-777-6300.

As always, the Town Office will assist you in any way possible.

Ted Pratt, Town Administrator

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GPFS: *The Princess Bride*

It’s “inconceivable!” that you won’t want to see *The Princess Bride* on June 17 at 8 pm, when the Garrett Park Film Society presents this classic family film. While adhering to all the elements of a traditional fairy tale, *The Princess Bride* takes these conventions and gives them a zany twist, making it a favorite of both children and adults. It is the kind of film you can’t wait to introduce to your children or grandchildren to share as a family, so think how much fun it will be to share with your friends and neighbors, too!

Dinner, which will be equally special and appropriate for the film (Wonder what that means? Come and find out!), will be served at 7:15 pm. Cost for adults is \$10, children 10 or under \$5. Soda, beer, and wine will be on offer at prices ranging from \$1 to \$5. Popcorn, of course, and nuts also will be available for \$1 or a GPFS member coupon.

All this takes place at the Town Hall. Admission to the film is free to GPFS members and is \$5 per person or \$10 for a family for nonmembers—what a bargain!

BTW, after *The Princess Bride* the GPFS takes a break until September 9, when *Not One Less* will be shown.

Suzanne Grefsheim

Garrett Park in the Future?

What do you want Garrett Park to look like in the future? Come share your visions on May 25 at 8 pm in the Town Hall. The Garrett Park Citizens Association will host a “Land Use Forum” where the results of the Land Use Task Force’s report will be displayed graphically in a PowerPoint presentation. Please come and share your views of what our town might look like in the future. The land use policies of today will determine what Garrett Park will look and feel like in the future.

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Citizens Association News

On April 27, the Citizens Association held the annual Candidates' Forum. Town Council candidates Jack Mandel, Chris Petito, and Phil Schulp answered questions on topics ranging from issues with Pepco to the budget. All the candidates encouraged the town residents to get more involved and attend the monthly Town Council meetings.

Next Meeting. On May 25, the CA will host a Garrett Park Land Use Forum at 8 pm in the Town Hall. Members of the Land Use Task Force (LUTF) and Town Council will discuss the recommendations of the LUTF with town residents. The meeting will be held as an open forum and is intended to obtain and discuss views and reactions to the recommendations. The LUTF will explain and discuss the differences between present regulations and the recommendations. Since the LUTF issued its final report to the Town Council, Montgomery County has been working on a total rewrite of the Montgomery County Zoning Ordinance. An update on the county efforts and how they might impact Garrett Park will also be part of the forum.

Please plan to attend this important meeting and become involved in the discussion. We look forward to hearing your input.

Upcoming: July 4 Parade. It is time to start planning for the annual 4th of July festivities. Volunteers are needed to help at the parade and afterward. Please e-mail Leslie Bethke-Pope at lbethke02@yahoo.com if you are available. Also, convertibles are needed to transport parade digni-

taries. Please contact Mario Grande at mfgrande@aol.com if you have a convertible that can be used in the parade.

Future Meetings. Do you have a suggestion or idea for a meeting topic that you feel would be of interest to the town? If so, please forward your thoughts to Mario Grande at mfgrande@aol.com or send a note to Box 456.

Annual Dues. The Citizens Association 2011 annual dues are being collected. The annual dues are \$10 for individuals and \$20 per family. Thank you to all of those who have already paid. For those who have not, please submit dues by mailing them to the Citizens Association at Box 456.

Garrett Park Listserv. Our neighborhood is made up of people with a wide variety of backgrounds, skills, perspectives, and experiences. Tap into these resources and stay informed with the Garrett Park neighborhood listserv. The listserv is an electronic forum for neighbors to communicate information about town concerns, safety issues, upcoming events, and recommended services (for example, contractors, lawn care, doctors, and baby sitters). The listserv will not be used for unsolicited marketing, and you can unsubscribe at any time. To join, e-mail Todd Harris or sign in at groups.yahoo.com/group/GarrettParkneighbors/join.

Questions or comments for the Citizens Association? If so, please send a note to P.O. Box 456 or e-mail Mario Grande (mfgrande@aol.com).

Youth Art Show

All children/adolescents/young adults living in Garrett Park are invited to participate in the first Annual Garrett Park Youth Art Show, to be held Saturday, June 18, from 12 to 2 pm at the Town Hall. We hope this will be the first of many youth art shows!

To participate, please complete the registration form and mail to Garrett Park Women's Club, PO Box 494, by June 10. Questions? Please contact Vickie Baily or Jean Horan.

Get creative, have fun, and we'll see you at the show!

Guidelines:

Artwork must be brought to the Town Hall by 9 am on June 18. Each piece must have the information on the form below printed on the back or bottom.

Any young person still living at home is welcome to participate. Each participant can bring up to three pieces. One piece will be chosen for the show.

The town will be invited to view the exhibit, which will be open from 12 to 2 pm. Pieces can be taken home by 3 pm.

2011 Youth Art Show Registration

Participant name(s)

Age(s)

Phone

E-mail

Media (e.g., paint,
pencil, watercolor, clay)

GPES News

As noted in the last issue of the *Bugle*, Mrs. Stemble of GPES is retiring this year from teaching. Her retirement party will be June 3, and we're trying to get together memories, best wishes, etc., from some of her past students. If you have a child who was a student of hers, and they or you would be willing to write a little something, please pass it on to me at Box 98, or by e-mail by June 1. Many thanks.

Mary Moyer

Wanted

We have heard of about three young people graduating from high school this year—so far. Is someone in your family graduating from high school or other institution of higher learning? We would like to publish the names of those in town who have made it through their school years. Give me a call (301-933-5764) with names, places graduated from, and future plans by June 5 to make it into the last issue of this printing year.

Mary Moyer

GIVES at Farmers Market!

A sure sign of spring is the re-opening of Farmer Tim's market on Saturday mornings at Penn Place. GIVES is now setting up for a collection on the third Saturday of every month, May through October, at the Farmers Market. If you would like to volunteer a couple hours to help, please let Rana Koll-Mandel or Nancy Waltz know of your interest.

Last year, GIVES donations totaled more than \$5,000—a significant increase from 2009. And this was in a year of economic cutbacks for many folks! So far, in 2011, donations are up 30 percent from last year.

All funds collected are donated to two worthy organizations—American Friends Service Committee doing relief work abroad and in the U.S., and Thrive DC, a local nonprofit that supplies meals and other services to families in the Adams Morgan area.

Kristen Ingham of Hermosa Beach, CA, seeks furnished house for her family of 4 for 6 weeks: June 25 to August 10, 2011. Please call Ken or Glenda Ingham.


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Letter from the Mayor

Quick quiz: An “oriel” is (a) a bird, (b) a baseball player, or (c) an architectural feature? In fact, an oriel is a type of bay window that projects from a wall. What would it look like if oriels were permitted to project over the setback line for houses in Garrett Park? To learn more about that and other possible land use changes, come to Town Hall on Wednesday, May 25, at 8 pm, when the Citizens Association will sponsor a forum on land use issues in Garrett Park. The focus will be a presentation explaining, with visuals, the recommendations of the Land Use Task Force (LUTF), which prepared a report and recommendations last year. LUTF information can be found at <http://www.garrettpark-md.gov/c/385/Land-Use-Task-Force>.

As the Council worked with the LUTF recommendations, we realized that some could be better assessed with a visual understanding of what the practical effect of a given proposal might be. For example, the LUTF found that “long, flat walls tend to make houses appear boxy, and lessen the architectural diversity in town,” an assessment that I dare say enjoys universal accord. The report recommends that in order to “encourage aesthetic variety,” certain projections into setback, such as an oriel, be allowed to break up the monotony of long side walls. The recommendations seem eminently reasonable; what would they look like in actual application? With respect to another LUTF

recommendation, what would a sliding scale of permissible lot occupancy (higher percentage of structure coverage for smaller lots, for example) look like?

To help answer those types of questions, Councilmember Beth Irons has enlisted the generous help of town resident Stephen Paczkowski, an architect who, with the assistance of his firm, is preparing some visual aids to facilitate our understanding of the practical effect of certain LUTF recommendations. Beth and LUTF Chair Suzanne Grefsheim will also present brief overviews that will help put the LUTF recommendations in the context of town land use history and county zoning.

I strongly encourage attendance and participation in this vital forum. Take advantage of your opportunity not only to find out more about land use in Garrett Park and the LUTF recommendations, but also actively to influence decisions that will affect the appearance of Garrett Park for generations to come. Over the coming months, the Council will consider developing proposed laws that address LUTF recommendations; let the Council know your views, informed now by what we hope will be a deeper understanding of the recommendations and their impact on Garrett Park.

Chris Keller

